

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

POLLUTION REPORT

DATE: February 23, 1988

Region II
Response and Prevention Branch
Edison, New Jersey 08837

TO: C. Daggett, EPA
S. Luftig, EPA
R. Salkie, EPA
G. Zachos, EPA
J. Marshall, EPA
ERD Washington
(E-Mail)
J. Czapor
R. Cobiella, EPA
B. Sprague, EPA
J. Trela, NJDEP
A. Cavalier, NJDEP
M. Zalowski, NJDEP
A. Zach, City of Newark
R. Cahill, EPA
TAT

(201) 548-8730 - Commercial and FTS
24 Hour Emergency

POLREP NO.: Thirty (30)
INCIDENT NAME: Arkansas Chemical Company
SITE/SPILL NO.: T9
POLLUTANT: Textile chemicals and intermediates
CLASSIFICATION: Major
SOURCE: Abandoned chemical facility
LOCATION: Newark, New Jersey
AMOUNT: 20,000 containers of various chemicals,
1500 drums (600 empty), 87 indoor and
outdoor tanks of which less than ten
hold oil, acid, and unknowns.
WATER BODY: None

1. SITUATION:

A. The Arkansas Chemical Company produced textile and other specialty chemicals at this site until it was abandoned in 1983. Abandoned on this site are two-story office/laboratory buildings (Bldg. 25/30), a machine shop (Bldg. 26), a small chemical processing building (Bldg. 27), a large four-story chemical process building (Bldg. 28), boiler room/tank house (Bldg. 16/16B), a storage building (Bldg. 24), and two sheds (S1 & S2). About 1500 drums and 20,000 small containers of chemicals exist in these buildings. In addition, there are approximately 17 aboveground storage tanks and 70 process tanks/reaction vessels.

433280



2. ACTION TAKEN:

A. Listed below are the major waste streams of hazardous materials classified on-site and their current status. An estimated 45,738 gallons of material remain on-site.

- 1) Base/Neutral and Oxidizer Liquids, Oxidizer and Reactive Solids (28% of total waste streams) 9,000 gallons, 33 gallons, 5 gallons and 3 gallons respectively are mixed together in a bulking chamber stored behind building 28. For safety purposes the opening to this chamber was sealed and padlocked.
- 2) Flammable and Organic Liquids (13% of total waste streams) 2,745 gallons and 3,100 gallons respectively are mixed together in a bulking chamber behind building 28B. As an added measure of security, approximately 5,000 gallons of this material was pumped into a holding pool inside of building 28 on January 20, 1988. Due to settling, approximately 1,000 gallons of material had solidified which prohibited complete transfer. Currently, the solid material is stored in the sealed bulking chamber.
- 3) Acid Liquids (7% of total waste streams) 3,200 gallons of this material are staged in their original containers inside building 28. Disposal analysis has been performed and waste facility acceptance is under way.
- 4) Cyanide Liquids (<1% of total waste streams) 44 gallons of this material are staged in their original containers inside building 28. Disposal analysis has been performed and waste facility acceptance is under way.
- 5) Peroxide Liquids and Solids (2% of total waste streams) 650 gallons and 10 gallons respectively of these materials are bulked together in overpack drums inside building 28. Disposal analysis has been performed and waste facility acceptance is under way.
- 6) Halogenated Organic Liquids (1% of total waste streams) 583 gallons of this material are staged in overpack drums inside building 28. Disposal analysis has been performed and waste facility acceptance is under way.
- 7) Base/Neutral Solids (33% of total waste streams) 15,000 gallons of this material are staged in their original containers inside building 28. Disposal analysis has indicated that this material qualifies for landfill disposal.

8) Acid Solids (9% of total waste streams) 4,200 gallons of this material are staged in their original containers inside building 28. Disposal analysis has indicated that the pH needs to be lowered prior to disposal.

9) Cyanide Solids (<1% of total waste streams) 90 gallons of this material are staged in their original containers inside building 28. Disposal analysis has been performed and waste facility acceptance is under way.

10) Organic and Flammable Solids (7% of total waste streams) 2,500 gallons and 575 gallons respectively have been bulked together in their original containers inside building 28. Disposal analysis has been performed and waste facility acceptance is under way.

B. Aside from the main waste streams yet to be disposed of, the following material will require removal from site and appropriate disposal:

1) The disposal of nearly 20,000 laboratory reagent bottles is complete with the exception of 9 specific wastes. These wastes include explosives, mercury compounds and PCB's. Alternate disposal methods for these items are under way.

2) Three gas cylinders, two of which are unknown, remain onsite. Disposal via manufacturer identification is under way.

3) All asbestos material has been stabilized in place and awaits final mitigation.

4) Nearly 600 empty drums are staged inside building 24 awaiting cleaning and shredding.

C. Despite EPA's efforts to secure the site to prevent exposure to public, a break-in occurred on February 19, 1988 through the rear of building 28. Site security notified the OSC and the Newark Police Department immediately upon discovering the break-in. ERCS was activated to secure the break-in point on February 20, 1988. A survey of the building by EPA and TAT indicated that no contact with the hazardous materials stored inside was made.

D. A meeting was held with EPA, ERCS and TAT to discuss transportation and disposal costs of the remaining materials in order to estimate a funding increase.

E. Representatives of Lindley Chemical were on site to tour the facility and to determine what equipment they could

purchase. Also present during the tour were EPA, Newark Office of Emergency Management and a Newark Engineering Department representative.

3. FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. During this demobilization period a \$2 million dollar exemption letter will be written and will request an additional \$1.2 million to complete remaining site work. Remaining site work will be completed as funding becomes available.

B. 24 hour site security will be maintained until the current funding expires. At that time it will either be resumed until completion of site work or terminated due to budgetary constraints.

C. EPA and TAT will make periodic on-site inspections to ensure stability of hazardous wastes remaining on site.

D. Representatives of Lindley Chemical will be on site to remove process and research and development equipment.

4. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. Total Project Ceiling Authorized	\$1,966,009
B. Mitigation Contract Ceiling	\$1,598,009
C. Expenditures for Mitigation Contracts	
1.a Amount Obligated to ERCS contractor for Delivery Order #6893-02-073 and #7445-02-006 (DCNs KCS - 361,629,633,710,730, KE - 0001, 0027, 0035, 0044, 0045) as of February 23, 1988	\$1,565,380
1.b Amount de-obligated due to contract rollover	\$ 1,991
1.c Total amount obligated to date	\$1,563,389
1.d Estimated mitigation expenditures as of February 23, 1988	\$1,355,000
1.e Balance Remaining	\$ 208,389
D. Unobligated Balance Remaining	\$ 34,620

E. Other Extramural Costs as of
February 23, 1988

1.a TAT Salary/Travel (estimated) \$ 95,211

1.b Analytical Costs \$ 6,628

F. Intramural Costs as of February 23, 1988

1.a EPA (Estimated Direct and
Indirect) \$ 59,696

G. Total Expenditures \$1,516,535
Percent of Total Project Ceiling 77.2%
Percent of \$2 Million 75.8%

FURTHER
POLREPS
FINAL POLREP _____ FORTHCOMING ☒ SUBMITTED BY Mark P. Pane
Mark Pane, OSC
Response and
Prevention Branch

DATE OF RELEASE: MARCH 9, 1988



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry
Atlanta GA 30333

Date: July 24, 1987

From: William Nelson *WLN*
ATSDR, Region II

Subject: Arkansas Company Site
Essex County, Newark, New Jersey

To: Janet Fieldstein
EPA, Region II

On July 23, 1987, the Environmental Protection Agency requested that the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry review the Preliminary Assessment Removal Funding Request on the Arkansas Company Site for exemption to the statutory limit for removal actions.

The Arkansas Company is an abandoned, textile chemical manufacturing facility. Located at the site are approximately 600 full drums of product and raw materials, 8000 small containers of lab reagents and sample formulations, 100 storage tanks, and numerous mixing vessels containing residual liquids and sludges. The buildings are grossly contaminated and the facility has been a target for vandalism and arson attempts. Although 24 hour security has been in place since January 20, 1987 and the site is bordered by a fence on the front, rear and south sides of the company, security of the site remains inadequate. The site is also surrounded by various operating manufacturing and chemical companies.

It is ATSDR's opinion that the site presents serious physical, chemical and fire hazards and poses a threat to both human health and the environment.